

THE FALCON FLYER

September 11, 2006
www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/floral



Dear Floral Families,

I hope everyone enjoyed what is likely one of the few remaining tastes of summer weather over the past weekend. Curriculum Nights begin this week – we look forward to seeing everyone at this important event that provides an early opportunity for parents to connect with teachers.

Tuesday, September 12.....Grade 3 Curriculum Night
Wednesday, September 13.....Grade 4 Curriculum Night
Wednesday, September 20.....Grade 1 Curriculum Night
Thursday, September 21.....Grade 2 Curriculum Night
All Curriculum Nights begin at 7:00 in the gymnasium.

Please don't hesitate to contact one of us if you have any questions, concerns, or compliments regarding your child's experience at Floral Street School. You can reach us at 508-841-8720, or by e-mail:

Todd Curtis can be reached at tcurtis@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Carol Bradley can be reached at cbradley@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

~ Todd Curtis & Carol Bradley

Important Notes:

- **Only students who have purchased a bus pass may ride the bus**

To purchase a pass, please visit the School Department office at 100 Maple Ave. Please see <http://www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/Schools/Central/transportation/index.html> for more information about bus passes and to view routes and bus stops. Wednesday, September 20 will be "Bus Pass Verification Day" and drivers will be checking passes of all students riding the bus.

- **Wellness Policy**

The School Committee approved a new Local Wellness Policy this summer. A portion of this policy relates classroom snacks and celebrations. In short, it is now District Policy (not just school policy as in the past) that **parents may not send snacks to be shared**. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in this regard.

- **Important Dismissal Reminders:**

Two dismissal practices have recently come to our attention that cause concern. The first is the practice of signing out students at 3:30 or just before in order to avoid the parent pickup line and to get a "head start", particularly on days when a student has a class or some other activity after school. Except for emergencies or unique events, parents must use the parent pick-up line – it is simply unfair to the vast majority of parents who utilize the system as devised. Signing students out before 3:30 in order to attend extracurricular events also sends a negative message about school and the value of every minute of our day.

The second practice that came to my attention is that a small number of students have been dismissed as parent pickup when, in fact, they are bikers and walkers, and exit the building before ever reporting to the parent pickup line. This is again an issue of fairness, but what is all the more important is the **serious safety concern**. If any of these children were to be unaccounted for, we would have no way of tracking them down, since our records would show them as parent pickup.

Regarding walkers, concerns have expressed about parents who pick up walkers a distance from the school, including at the end of the rear path. I have discussed this with concerned parties, including the Shrewsbury Police. **This practice is strongly discouraged**. The dismissal routine here at school is a contained environment designed to maximize student safety. Traffic is controlled and in the event a parent is late, students are under adult supervision. Parents' picking up walkers away from the school circumvents the routine established at the school and creates unsafe traffic situations for our students. Walkers should walk the full distance to and from school or be picked up using the school's procedure.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you for your patience and cooperation in following the dismissal procedures – we appreciate your assistance in creating a safe and orderly dismissal routine for the more than 750 young children in our care.

- **Please help us save money!**

In order to save on paper and copying costs, we ask that you subscribe to our school's "list serv" e-mail list. This is the last Falcon Flyer that will be delivered as a paper copy to those who have signed up to the list serve – thank you! Please click on the mailbox on our school website to sign up.

Please read the information printed on the Communication Folder carefully so that you have the information you need regarding policies and practices at Floral Street School. Thank you!

Don't forget that you can access the Falcon Flyer and the lunch menu anytime on our homepage at www.shrewsbury-ma.gov/schools/floral

Lunch Menu: September 11 to September 15				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Waffle Bar with toppings Bacon Fresh Fruit Cup	Rotini w / Marinara Sauce or Meat Sauce Green Beans Italian Roll Chilled Peaches	Beef or Bean Taco Mexican Rice Corn Bread Assorted Toppings Local Grown Apple	Chicken Patty Sandwich Tater Tots Fresh Broccoli w / Ranch Dip Orange Wedges	Papa Gino's Pizza Garden Salad Fresh Fruit Cup
Ham & Cheese Roll-up Goldfish Crackers Cantaloupe Wedge	Ham & Cheese Roll-up Goldfish Crackers Cantaloupe Wedge	Ham & Cheese Roll-up Goldfish Crackers Cantaloupe Wedge	Ham & Cheese Roll-up Goldfish Crackers Cantaloupe Wedge	Ham & Cheese Roll-up Goldfish Crackers Cantaloupe Wedge

Two Important Dates:

Monday, September 11	Candlelight Vigil at Dean Park, 8pm
Thursday, September 21	School Picture Day!